

## Brevities

Women took out forty-two patents on bicycles last year.

Africa has nearly 700 languages, and this fact presents great difficulties to missionary effort.

Japan laws forbid boys under twenty years of age to smoke.

The forests of North America, in value and variety, exceed those of any other continent.

The inhabitants of the United Kingdom post 44,000,000 letters, etc., weekly.

There are 798 distinct species of roses known.

In 1870 there were 9,000 Shakers in the United States. At present they do not number more than 1,000.

The lobster is his own most deadly enemy. The young ones scorn all other food when they have a chance to eat one another.

The old Russian city of Riga will celebrate next year the seven hundredth anniversary of its foundation.

About 250 species of mosquitoes are known, of which only about thirty have been found in the United States.

A railway operator at Louisiana, Mo., recently received a present of a dozen young chickens from an old woman to whom he had been courteous while she was waiting for a train.

Alaska is a paradise for sportsmen. No other such hunting domain exists in the United States.

About twenty million artificial teeth are made annual in the United States, and of this number nearly one-half are turned out by a single manufacturer in New York City. The porcelain of which they are composed is chiefly kaolin, and the process of putting on the enamel is extremely delicate.

During the year 1899 the United States issued about 2,500,000,000 of two-cent postage stamps, which, if placed end to end, would reach a distance of nearly 40,000 miles.

Lord Rosebery has probably attended more funerals of famous men than any other man of his age, which is 53.

It is said that 12,000 men are sent annually to Siberia, as criminals. The prisons of Russia are full to overflowing, and what to do with them has become a serious problem.

A pneumatic rocking-chair has just been patented. The air cushions attached to the rockers are very similar to ordinary cycle tires.

The intemperate use of tea and coffee produces results as real as those of drunkenness. Total blindness is often the result of excessive coffee drinking.

The deepest running stream in the world is said to be the Niagara river, just under the suspension bridge.

Every year in the United States there are opened and eaten 3,000,000 bushels of oysters. Much of this enormous crop comes from the Chesapeake. More than twice the amount of oysters produced by all foreign lands put together comes from the Chesapeake alone.

The secretary of one of the largest copper manufacturing in New York uses as a paper weight a die for a copper coin struck for the famous campaign between Andrew Jackson and the United States Bank. It has been used on the Secretary's desk for 35 years.

The largest flower in the world is found in Sumatra. It is as big as the wheel of a carriage, and has five oval, creamy-white petals with a center of violet. It weighs about 15 pounds, and will hold two buckets of water. It has a long, long name that nobody wants to know.

## Our Cream Pitcher

### Presbyterian

"Be of good comfort" is one of the ringing and frequent declarations of our Lord and Savior. Whatever the situation of life, there is cheer and solace in his holy religion. A Christ of love, mercy and grace throws a bow of promise over the darkest horizon. No Christian need go day by day without inspiration, uplift, and help. God is his Father; Jesus is his Savior; the Holy Spirit is a renewer and sanctifier; all things are rendered wisely for his good; and a reward for toil, sacrifice, and endurance is sure.

### Christian Advocate

It was a wise pastor who started to build a new and much-needed house of worship in spite of the fact that his congregation was weak and growing weaker. "If we are going to die at all," said he, "it is better that we should die a-kicking." The language is not elegant, but it goes straight to the point. Very often it is the fact that the effort to do something arrests a downward tendency, and begets fresh hope. We know a congregation that has had a great history, and is still relatively strong and influential, but that is falling to pieces chiefly because it lacks aggressiveness. If it could be set to work on some specific and worthy object, the effect would be instant and most beneficent.

### Universalist Leader

Voltaire's prediction was, in substance, that by the end of the nineteenth century Christianity would have ceased to exist—that its churches would be deserted, its faith discarded, its altars solitary, and as a religion its influence would have passed entirely away. We are now in the last decade of that century, and, passing over the interesting fact that the house in Geneva which Voltaire occupied when he indulged himself and amused others by this prophecy, is now used as a Bible depository, we may ask, 'How stand the facts?' What answer has the century made to Voltaire's prediction? It is a large question to dismiss in a few sentences, but we venture the assertion that at no former period in its history has Christianity been more powerful, active, and aggressive than in the last fifty years; and now, as we approach the end of the period marked for its dissolution, we witness, instead of the predicted ruins of a fallen religion, abundant and convincing testimony to the splendid fact of its unrivaled supremacy in human affairs. That supremacy cannot be successfully disputed. Christianity is to-day in possession of the civilized and influential nations of the world.

### Joseph Parker

This is how I want to live: I want to subordinate every desire to the one aim of seeking the kingdom of God and his righteousness; I want to interpret that kingdom as meaning and including all other kingdoms, and I would calmly await the leading of Divine providence. Why fidget yourself, why fret and annoy yourself, why go out and throw yourself into a bed of stinging nettles merely for the sake of doing something? I would not anticipate to-morrow any more than I would anticipate death. Death is abolished; there is no dying for the man who is in Christ. Nothing wrong can happen to me if I be really rooted in God, and if my eye be set towards him with the one anxiety of receiving his light. Given that I have to take care of myself, and make all my arrangements, and go up and down life as if everything depended on me, and my life becomes a cloud, a fear, a sting, a great distress; but given that I am creature, not creator, a child of the one ever-living, ever-loving Father, the very hairs on my head are all numbered, my name is written in heaven, and the whole plan of my destiny is mapped out in the skies—that I am, consciously or unconsciously, so long as my desire is as a pure flame, working out the Divine intention. Let me feel that to be the case; then, come weal, come woe, high hill or cold river, or bleak

wilderness or beautiful garden—come what may, God will come with it, and my life shall be a great, sweet peace.

### Christian Intelligencer

While all good men will sympathize with every sincere endeavor to arouse the interest of men at large in the great truths of Revelation, some of them at least long for a revival of a demand for preaching that shall take the preaching of Jesus Christ as a model, that is, take it all, and not a part of it, take the solemn warnings and condemnations as well as the promises and encouragements; take the sovereignty and holiness of God as well as his fatherhood and philanthropy.

Teakwood and rice are the two principal products of Siam.

## Matrimonial

MILLER—KEEFER.—At the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Brick, Allegheny township, Somerset county, Pa., Sep. 20, 1900, by the undersigned Elder Abraham J. Miller, of Boone, Pa., and sister Lizzie Keefer, of Berlin, Pa. No more sincere good wishes could follow a marriage than follow our brother and sister from their many friends. Elder Miller, all the years we were pastor of Berlin and Stonycreek charge, was our faithful and warm supporter, always willing to help wherever he could. Brother Miller is still, comparatively speaking, a young man altho a widower of sixteen years standing. His bride is a maiden sister of suitable years. We bespeak for them much joy and happiness in their new relation and pray God's richest blessings upon them. JOHN H. KNEPPER. Meyersdale, Pa.

POORBAUGH—BOWSER.—In the Brethren church Meyersdale, Pa., Sunday morning, Sep. 16, 1900, by the undersigned. Mr. Ammon W. Poorbaugh and sister Mollie G. Bowser. The church was beautifully decorated and filled to its full capacity with the friends and admirers of this very estimable pair of young people who have the well wishes of a host of friends in their new relation. May a benign providence smile continually upon them is our prayer. JOHN H. KNEPPER.

## Our Dead

DEFFENBAUGH.—Meriam Gladdus, the infant daughter of brother C. E. and Mrs Deffenbaugh, was born Apr. 2, 1900. She closed her little eyes in death Sept. 19, 1900, having been with us but 5 months and 17 days. During the sickness and death of the child the parents and friends were constantly with her but all they could do could not retain her spirit in this world. Tho we fail to understand why God called this little one from our home, yet we do not doubt the justice of the Creator. Believing that her mission in this life was fulfilled let us endeavor to build a home in eternity, where we have no fear of death and mourning never hangs from the door of that mansion. The parents and friends have the sympathy of the entire community in this sad hour of trouble. A large concourse of friends assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the remains of the little one. Services by writer.

E. D. BURNWORTH.

MOLER.—Nancy Margaret Myers, daughter of Christian and Catharine Myers, was born in Augusta county, Virginia, June 26, 1848. She moved to Iowa county, Iowa, with her parents when she was seven years of age. She was married to John Moler October 21, 1869. To this union were born three daughters, Elizabeth, Cora and Jennie. The family moved to Montezuma in 1881. She was converted Feb. 17, 1884, and united with the Methodist Episcopal church and was a